

Ltd., Naini, Allahabad, have passed a proposal for its merger with the BHEL or IOCL;

(b) if so, whether Government are going to take any step in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The management of the Company has not passed any such resolution. However, representations have been received from the Union and Executives' Association of the Company. While BHEL has expressed its inability, no response has been received from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

PSUs running in loss

4009. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings running in loss for the last three years;

(b) whether there is a scope for their improvement in working; and

(c) the action proposed to upgrade the viable PSUs;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) there were 106, 107 and 100 CPSUs which had incurred losses during the years 1999-2000, 1998-99 and 1997-98 respectively.

(b) and (c) It is constant endeavour of the Government to revive the CPSUs which have potential for revival. Of the 106 CPSUs, which had incurred losses during 1999-2000, 59 are registered with BIFR. For sick industrial CPSUs, BIFR are to take final view under the provisions of SICA for their revival. As on 31.12.2000, BIFR have sanctioned revival schemes for 15 sick CPSUs registered with them.

(e) For other loss making CPSUs, the concerned administrative

Ministry in consultation with management of the CPSU explore various options like financial restructuring, technology upgradation, manpower rationalization including Voluntary Retirement Scheme, formation of joint ventures, improved marketing strategies etc. for improvement in the working of the enterprises.

Losses suffered by HPF Ltd., OOTY

4010. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ooty-based Hindustan Photo films Ltd. has been suffering huge financial losses continuously for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of the losses suffered during the last five years and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any restructuring plan for revival of the country's oldest photofilm manufacturing company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The losses suffered during the last five years are as given below:

(Rupees in Lakhs)

| Year | Net Loss |
|-----------|----------|
| 1995-96 | 7087.73 |
| 1996-97 | 9561.17 |
| 1997-98 | 17628.57 |
| 1998-99 | 30982.62 |
| 1999-2000 | 27844.95 |

The reasons for losses are increasing competition in the market, low capacity utilization, excessive labour force, excessive time and cost overruns on the Polyester X-ray project, failure to enter colour film market etc.